



DOWNTOWN COMMISSION MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2012**

The Downtown Commission convened in a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 15, 2012, at 301 W. 2nd St. in Austin, Texas.

Chair Mandy Dealey called the Commission Meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

Downtown Commission Members in Attendance:

Bryan Cady, Mandy Dealey, Tina Fernandez, Kevin Foster, Jude Galligan, Stan Haas, Robert Knight, Joel Sher, Heather Way, Bart Whatley, Bruce Willenzik

City Staff in Attendance:

Michael Knox, EGRSO

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

There were no citizens speaking under general communications.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the January 18 and January 26 meeting (with attendance corrections) were approved on an 8-0 vote on Commission Member Knight's motion, Commission Member Willenzik's second.

4. CONSIDER FORMATION A COMMITTEE OR WORKING GROUP OF THE DOWNTOWN COMMISSION TO ANALYZE THE EFFECT OF THE HERITAGE TREE ORDINANCE ON DOWNTOWN AUSTIN AND TO DELIVER A REPORT OF THE ANALYSIS TO THE CITY COUNCIL AND OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There was a motion by Commission Member Knight, seconded by Commission Member Haas, to form a working group, made up only of Downtown Commission members, to analyze the heritage tree ordinance as it applies to downtown, and to report back to the full Commission at the May 2012 meeting.

There was a substitute motion by Commission Member Foster, seconded by Commission Member Way, to form a working group, including non-members of the Downtown Commission, to analyze the heritage tree ordinance as it applies to downtown. The motion failed on a 6-5 vote.

The original motion to form a working group, made up only of Downtown Commission members, to analyze the heritage tree ordinance as it applies to downtown, failed on a 7-4 vote.

A motion to form a working group, which may include non-members of the Downtown Commission, to analyze the heritage tree ordinance as it applies to downtown, was approved on Commission Member Haas' motion, Commission Member Foster's second, on an 9-2 vote, with Commission Members Cady, Fernandez, Foster, Galligan, Haas, Knight, Sher, Whatley and Willenzik voting yes and Commission members Dealey and Way voting no.

A motion to appoint Commission Members Dealey, Foster, Galligan, Haas and Knight to the working group was approved on Commission Member Willenzik's motion, Commission Member Knight's second, on an 11-0 vote.

5. 2012 COMMISSION WORK PLAN

Motions to create a working group to review and recommend amendments to Commission bylaws and to develop proposed Commission rules and procedures, and a second motion to appoint Commission Members Fernandez, Sher and Way, were approved on Commission Member Fernandez's motion, Commission Member Way's second, on 10-0 votes, with Commission Member Knight off the dais.

6. NEW ITEMS FOR INFORMATION FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Commission Member Bruce Willenzik encouraged members to attend the opening reception of The People's Gallery at City Hall on February 24.

Commission Member Galligan announced that the Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association is hosting an affordable housing discussion on February 16.

7. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff liaison Michael Knox updated the Commission on the status of the Downtown Wayfinding Project.

8. POTENTIAL FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Added to the list of potential agenda items were:

- 2012 Work Plan
- Updates from Working Groups
- Status of the Capitol Complex Redevelopment Initiative

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Mandy Dealey adjourned the meeting at 7:26p.m. without objection.